

Message Text

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ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02

USPS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 OPR-02 FMC-02 FCC-02 OC-05 CCO-00 OES-06

COME-00 INT-05 /093 W

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P 131055Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7890

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2691

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (DUDAS, TRAIAN), ETRN ECRE EEWT EFIS ETEL

EWWT RO

SUBJECT: VISIT TRANSPORT/TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINISTER DUDAS

REF: STATE 111507, STATE 101989, BUCHAREST 2097

1. IN MEETING WITH INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR BALASOIU ON MAY 11, EMBOFF INFORMED THAT DUDAS ACCEPTS INVITATION AND WILL DEPART BUCHAREST ON TAROM EITHER MAY 27 OR JUNE 3. EMBOFF EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR MAY 27 AND WAS TOLD THAT DUDAS WAS WAITING FOR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPROVAL OF MARITIME AGREEMENT TO PERMIT ITS SIGNATURE WHILE HE IS IN WASHINGTON.

2. DELEGATION COMPOSITION: (1) MINISTER TRAIAN DUDAS (2) ION BAICU, DEPUTY MINISTER AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL FOR THE DANUBE/BLACK SEA CANAL (3) NICOLAI MIOSE, DIRECTOR OF THE MARITIME FLEET AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF NAVROM CONSTANTE, AND (4) GHEORGHE BALASOIU, DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH MOISE SPEAKS ENGLISH, WE ASSUME GROUP WILL NEED FULL-TIME INTERPRETER.

3. EMBOFF INFORMED BALASOIU OF FUNDING PRINCIPLE OUTLINED PARA 2 STATE 111507, WHICH HE GRUDGINGLY ACCEPTED. HE EXPRESSED UNCLASSIFIED

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DESIRE TO STAY IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK ONLY SINCE HE FELT

BEYOND THOSE CITIES HE COULD NOT RELY ON EMBASSY OR COMMERCIAL OFFICE AND DID NOT WISH TO RISK BEING STRANDED. COMMENT: WE ASSUME DOT AND ROMANIAN EMBASSY CAN WORK OUT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS THEREBY ALLAYING BALASOIU'S FEARS.

4. AGREEMENTS WHICH BALASOIU MENTIONED COULD BE SIGNED IN WASHINGTON WERE THE FOLLOWING:

A. MARITIME AGREEMENT - COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS NOT YET GIVEN APPROVAL ON INITIALLED TEXT, BUT DUDAS HOPES IT WILL COME IN TIME FOR SIGNATURE WHILE IN WASHINGTON.

B. POSTAL AGREEMENT

C. TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT - EMBOFF QUERIED WHETHER BALASOIU WAS REFERRING TO EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AT FCC. HE RESPONDED THAT HE THOUGHT POSTAL DELEGATION'S DISCUSSION AT WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY HAD OPENED WAY FOR SUCH AGREEMENT. ASSERTION THAT OTP DOES NOT NEGOTIATE AGREEMENTS, SUCH AS ONE GOR TABLED LAST SPRING AND WE REJECTED AS BEING OUTSIDE COMPETENCE OF USG, FAILED TO DEFLECT BALASOIU. COMMENT: SINCE WE WERE NOT PARTY TO DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON AND HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DISSUADE MOT FROM ITS INSISTENCE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT DESPITE REPEATED EFFORTS, WE SUGGEST DEPT OR APPROPRIATE USG AGENCY LAY OUT SITUATION TO ROMANIAN EMB IN DC. PLEASE ADVISE US OF THE RESULTS OF THAT REPRESENTATION SO THAT WE MAY REINFORCE MESSAGE WITH MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

D. RESEARCH AGREEMENT - BALASOIU WONDERED WHETHER UPDATED CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARA 3 OF STATE 11507 WAS SAME THING AND REPEATED HOPE EXKRESSED PARA 6 BUCHAREST 2097 THAT RAIMUNDO OF DOT WOULD BE IN BUCHAREST BEFORE MAY 27 TO WORK OUT TEXT FOR SIGNATURE IN WASHINGTON.

E. FISHING: BALASOIU WAS AGAIN TOLD THAT TIME HAD PASSED FOR FISHING AGREEMENT.

5. PROGRAM SPELLED OUT PARA 3 STATE 111507 RESPONSIVE TO ALMOST ALL GOR AND EMBASSY'S LENGTHY LIST OF SUGGESTIONS. GIVEN COMPOSITION OF GROUP WE WOULD PROPOSE RECASTING PROGRAM UNCLASSIFIED

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TO EMPHASIZE MARITIME COMPONENT. DANUBE/BLACK SEA CANAL NOW IN PLANNING STAGES WILL BE VERY LARGE LONGTERM PROJECT IN WHICH POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR SALE OF AMERICAN CANAL CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY. PRESENCE OF BAICU IN DELEGATION SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO GIVE HIM EXPOSURE TO US CANAL SSYSTEM AND DESIGN CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE EXPERTS. ON SUCH TRIP COAL LOADING OPERATION MIGHT ALSO BE VIEWED.

6. BALASOIU HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON PROPOSED SCHEDULE:

A. WHAT IS MEANT BY UPDATED COOPERATION AGREEMENT?
(SEE PARA 4D ABOVE)

B. HOPEFULLY THERE WOULD BE SEPARATE MEETINGS WITH US
POSTAL OFFICIALS AND COMSAT OFFICIALS.

C. HE RECOMMENDED DROPPING TOUR OF MECHANIZED MAIL HANDLING
FACILITY.

D. WHICH PORT WOULD BE VISITED? SHOULD DELEGATION RETURN
TO WASHINGTON MONDAY NIGHT? WHERE SHOULD THEY HAVE HOTEL
RESERVATIONS MADE?

7. WE WOULD HOPE AFTER THESE CHANGES ARE WORKED OUT, IF THERE
IS STILL FREE TIME IN WASHINGTON ON THE WEEKEND, THAT A TRIP TO
WILLIAMSBURG COULD BE SCHEDULED. WHILE REALIZING DIFFICULTY OF
SETTING UP PROGRAM WITHOUT FIXED DATES, WE WOULD NONETHELESS
APPRECIATE RECEIVING REVISED PROGRAM IN AS MUCH DETAIL AS POSSIBLE.
IN MEANTIME, WE SHALL TRANSMIT DATES AS SOON AS WE ARE INFORMED.
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